# NORTHWEST VINTAGE RADIO SOCIETY

# CALL LETTER

July '86 Vol. 11 No. 7

NO MEETING THIS MONTH

The July and August meeting have been ommitted to provide for a summer hiatus.

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(Puget Sound Antique Radio Assoc.)

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The **CALL LETTER**, is published monthly, as the only official publication of the **Northwest Vintage Radio Society** which is a nonprofit organization incorporated in the State of Oregon. Meetings are held on the 2nd Saturday of each month (July and August omitted) at the Buena Vista Clubhouse in Oregon City.

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## TECHNICAL TIPS

(from Ray Nelson)

"In need of of a drive belt for your newest acquisition, so the dial will turn and you can tune in all those stations?" Maybe you just can't locate one that is the proper size. A serviceable substitute can be fabricated from old-fashion friction tape, still available in some hardware or electrical supply outlets. Begin by unwinding a strip of tape long enough to go around the various drive and idler pulleys several times. Lay the tape out straight on a clean flat surface & using a straight edge and a razor blade cut a continuous strip wide enough between the sides of the pulleys. Now lift the tape and begin wrapping it around the pulley path being careful to lay each layer of tape exactly on top of the preceding. Cut another strip of tape and repeat until you have a "belt" about six layers thick. Lastly stitch down the loose end of the tape on the inside and outside surfaces of the belt aster securing them with a sparse amount of super glue. If the inside of the belt is too sticky, you can power it with some talc, or whatever.

Good luck, and happy tuning,

Ray Nelson

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Thanks to Ray for helping out the **CALL LETTER** staff with this & other articles.

Editor

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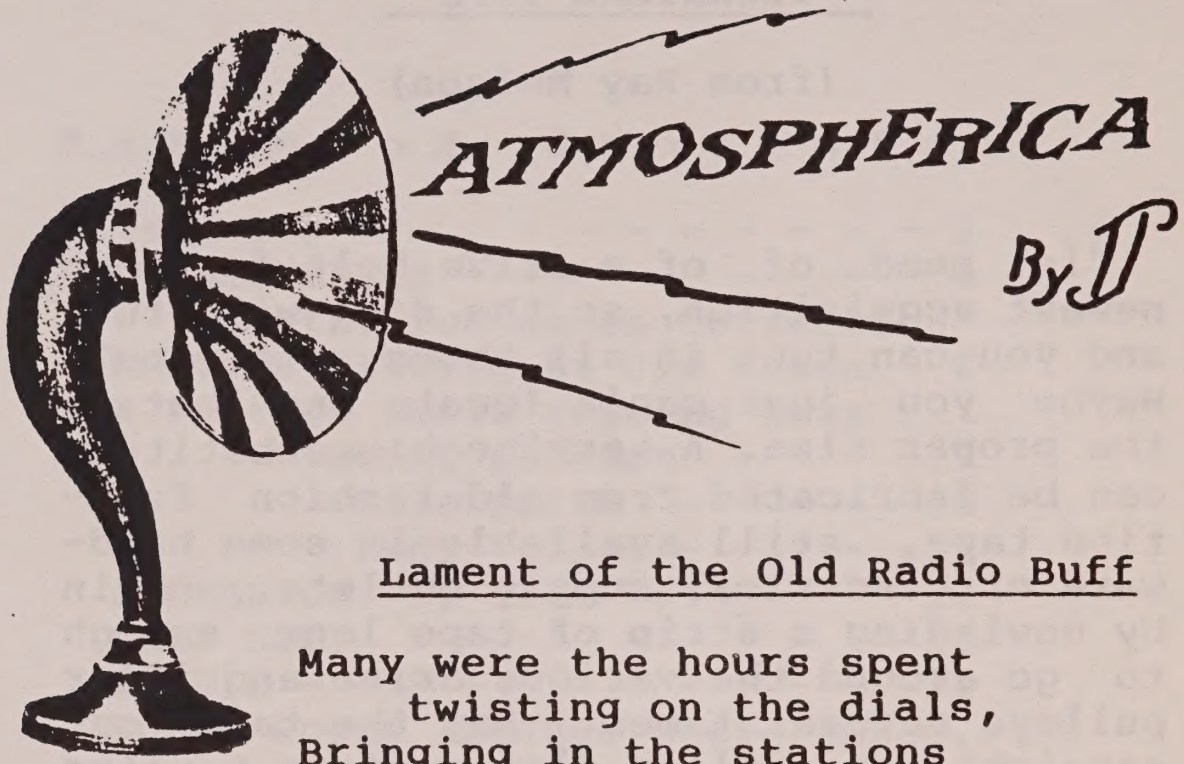


## Lament of the Old Radio Buff

Many were the hours spent
twisting on the dials,
Bringing in the stations
o'er the ether miles,
50 years ago, 50 years ago,
I had a battery set
Some 50 years ago.

Now it's all a dream folks,
a distant cloudy blur;
Charge it all to progress---
happy days that were.
50 years ago, 50 years ago,
I had Alladin's Lamp,
'Bout 50 years ago.

Tee-Vee now is with me,
shows me every move.
This scientific booby trap
lines me in the groove.
50 years ago, 50 years ago,
Oh science, send me back again
To 50 years ago.

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From the Tom James Collection
Originally printed June 1976

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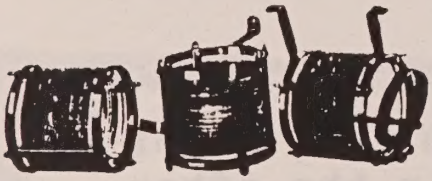
# AERO COIL
## SUPER-SENSITIVE
# INDUCTANCE UNITS

***The most important factors in perfect set performance:***

**Aero Coils are the *perfect* supersensitive inductance units! Due to their special patented construction, high frequency resistance is reduced to a minimum. Hence Aero Coils are capable of greater volume, and are sensitive to all the radio frequencies, thereby correcting the real cause of distortion, impossible to correct with other types of coils. But more! No dope is used. So if you are interested in better performance from any set, be sure to build with Aero Coils.**

## AERO TUNED RADIO FREQUENCY KIT

**Price, $12.00**



The Aero Coil Tuned Radio Frequency Kit illustrated at the left will positively improve the performance of any receiver. Patented Aero Coil Construction eliminates radio frequency losses and brings tremendous improvement to volume, tone and selectivity.

Kit consists of three matched units. The antenna coupler has variable primary. Uses .00035 condenser. Eight-page color circuit, layout and instruction sheet for building the supersensitive 5 tube Aero-Dyne receiver packed with each kit. Extra copies, 75c each.

## AERO INTERCHANGEABLE SHORT WAVE KIT

Completely interchangeable. Adopted by experts and amateurs. Range 15 to 130 meters. Includes three coils and base mounting, covering U. S. bands 20, 40 and 80 meters. You can increase the range of this short wave tuner by securing coils Nos. 4 and 5. Combined range of 25 to 150 meters. Both interchangeable coils fit same base supplied with short wave kit and use the same condensers. Coil No. 4 price $4.00; Coil No. 5 price $4.00.

**Price, $12.50**

## AERO INTERCHANGEABLE COILS Nos. 4 and 5

Increase range of your short wave tuner by securing Coil No. 4 and Coil No. 5, combined range 125 to 550 meters. Both interchangeable coils fit the same Aero base supplied with the short wave kit, and use the same condensers.

Coil No. 4—Range 125 to 250 meters.....$4.00
Coil No. 5—Range 235 to 550 meters.....$4.00

## Other Supersensitive AERO Inductance Coils

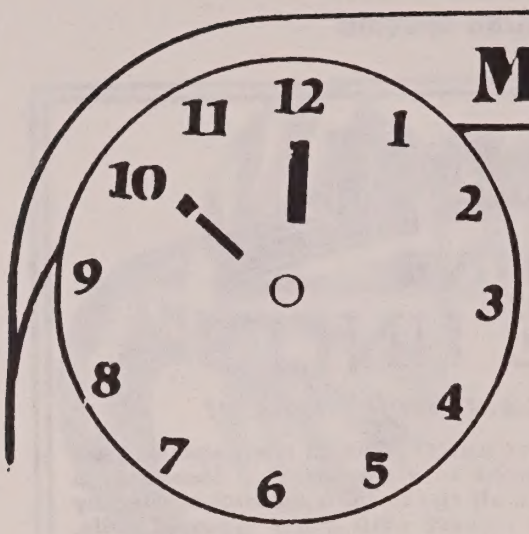
There is an Aero Coil for every inductance requirement. In addition to those described above we make the following coils: Aero 3 Circuit Tuner, $6.50. Aero Radio Frequency Regenerative Kit, $10.00. Aero Low-Loss Antenna Coupler, $4.50. Aero Oscillator (for Superheterodynes), $5.50. Aero Wave Trap Unit, $4.00.

***You can get any or all of these coils from your nearest dealer. See him TODAY.***

**AERO PRODUCTS, Inc., Dept. 107, 1772 Wilson Ave., Chicago, Ill.**

*Pacific Coast Representatives:* HENGER-SELTZER,
1111 Wall St., LOS ANGELES, CALIF. 377 Brannan St., SAN FRANCISCO, CALIF.

# Meeting Minutes




The June meeting was called to order by Pres. Bill DeVey at 10:07. The minutes of the May Meeting were approved as published in the **Call Letter.**

The treasurer's report was given and accepted. The current balance in the treasury is $883.30.

Good and Welfare

Guests were introduced.

George Rudolph is home from the hospital and welcomes visitors in the afternoon.

Old Business

President DeVey reports that the Buena Vista Club will continue in operation, but will be inactive during the winter months. We will be responsible for main-tenance during that period. Rent will probably be increased retroactive to January 1st.

A motion to change the meeting time to 2:00 o'clock Saturday was rejected. A motion to advance the meeting time from 10:00 to 11:00 was approved, effective at the September meeting.

There will be no July or August meeting, but the **CALL LETTER** will continue to be published. Members are urged to contribute material.

New Business

Due to lack of interest, there will be no Society Picnic this year.

Jim Mason reported that the Portland Advertising Council will invite club members to attend the opening of the museum on June 25th. A small display of radios and related items from his collection is included.

Leads and needs were given & the meeting adjourned at 10:45. am followed by a demonstration by Sonny Clutter on how to repair open audio transformers.

Secretary Pro Tem
Jim Mason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**Portland,Or 97220**

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## EDITOR'S NOTE

The next 3 pages won't talk about RCA, Philco, Freed Eisman, or Crosley. Nor do they mention consoles, battery sets or cathedrals.

These pages and a few in months past remember the people and the voices which came from those timeless pieces of technology.

Timely? Perhaps. As the "Golden Age of Radio", shows richness which is only a result of time, that same time takes it's toll on the frail human bodies which we occupy. The passing of these frail bodies make the following pages timely, and timeless.

Kate Smith, Benny Goodman and Rudy Vallee were all giants in early radio. Beyond that they were pioneers. We honor them here.

-Dick

==========

**R5-D3 ELECTRONIC SURPLUS**
**RADIO----------TELEPHONE**
**TEST EQUIPMENT**
**TUBES----------COMPONENTS**

**1930'S THRU 1980'S**

**611A SE 82nd AVE. 774-6560**

## BENNY GOODMAN

The King of swing is dead at 77. Born Benjamin David Goodman in Chicago on May 30th, 1909, he was the eighth of eleven children. The family lived in poverty. His father, a Russian immigrant, worked as a tailor in a sweatshop. Benny began his musical experience at age ten when his father arranged for him to take lessons from Franz Schoepp (then with the Chicago symphony orchestra) for 25 cents a week, on an instrument borrowed from the synagogue.

By age 13 he had dropped out of school & was playing "professionally" as a jazz musician.By 16, Benny Goodman had become well known in the Chicago Jazz circles. Band leader Ben Pollack hired Goodman to join musicians like Glenn Miller in the Pollack orchestra.

For the next 10 years he played in jazz bands from Chicago to New York, arranging session bands for recording, and rubbing shoulders with people like Gene Krupa, Eddie Condon, Billy Holiday, and Jack Teagarden.

In 1934 a new Goodman band, organized by promoter John Hammond, open in New York, and led to the NBC Saturday night radio show "Let's Dance". This, and the resulting cross-country tour, launched the "Swing era". Benny not only ushered in the "swinging years", he built them.

Goodman & swing could be heard on radio from those days in 1934, through the war years and into the 50s. Today the swing we hear on radio is still attributed to Goodman's style. More appropriate now than when it was used originally in the 40s: "Swing Is King- long live the King." Benny Goodman died June 13, 1986.

## KATE SMITH

Kate Smith was first heard on radio on May 1st, 1931. Simple things said that day on CBS became her signature. She began by saying "Hello everybody". She sang "When the Moon Comes Over the Mountain", and she closed by saying "thanks for listening."

It was during that year ('31) that she received 228 votes in a radio popularity poll. Her nearest competition had 78. Kate's popularity continued for four decades. Today her "God Bless America" lifts the spirit and brings a tear to the eye,as it did the first time in '38.

For 13 years "Kate Smith Speaks" was carried on radio, on CBS then on Mutual.

Like so many others on radio during WW II, Miss Smith travelled to entertain the troops, when she wasn't selling war bonds. She set records doing both. She was the only female performer to travel over 500,000 miles in war time, and she raised a record $110,000,000 in pledges in one 24 hour period on Feb. 1st, 1944.

In 1950, Miss Smith made the transition into television and in 1960 she make a come back with "The Kate Smith Show." This prime-time variety program showed off a slimmer hostess who had lost 90 pounds for the occasion.

The "first lady of radio" will always be remembered as one of the most popular entertainers during the 30s and 40s, but also for the more than 700 songs which she sang which made the Hit Parade during those years. Kate Smith died in a Raleigh N.C. emergency room on June 17th, 1986.

## RUDY VALLEE

The theme song "My Time Is Your Time", a greeting of Heigh-Ho Everybody", Rudy Vallee was a part of Americana, and a part of Radio from it's beginning.

He was the first crooner on the air, beginning with remotes from the Heigh-Ho club in New York in 1928. Rudy's Yale Collegians (2 violins, 2 saxess, & a piano), before that year was up, would be broadcasting over 20 shows a week.

The next year the band was enlarged and became the Connecticut Yankees. It was during 1929 that Vallee became the star of the Fleischmann Hour, an hour-long radio variety show which stayed in the top ten ratings for over ten years.

Vallee became known as the maker of stars. He had a hand in the careers of Richard Goldsmith (Henry Aldrich's writer), Victor Borge, Bob Burns (the Arkansas Traveler), Grace Allen and Nathan Birnbaum (Burns and Allen), Edgar Bergen, Bob Hope, Eddie Cantor, Dorothy Lamour and many many more. The Fleischmann Hour truly put a constellation of stars into radio

Born Hubert Prior Vallee on July 28th, 1901, he so idolized saxophonist Rudy Wiedoeft in his teen years that friends nicknamed him "Rudy". He went through college playing nightclubs & vaudeville.

Even in 1964, on Broadway, he would receive an ovation when he would raise his cupped hands to his mouth (like a megaphone).

Many stars owe a large portion of their success to Rudy Vallee, as does radio. When he died on July 3rd he took with him memories of the radio we love.

AC • CES • SION /ik-'sesh-en, ak-/
1. acquisition of additional property
2. to record in order of acquisition

Jim Mason:

1932 Silver Marshall 12-tube console
Western Electric Model 7 audio amplifier
KFLY mike radio
General Telephone piano radio
1936 big dial Zenith tombstone
King neutrodyne battery set

Ray Nelson

Atwater Kent 60-C in Kiel table
Pierce Airo table model and floor speaker, (1927?)
RCA Radiola 62 console
RCA Radio Electrola console RE-81
Zenith model 52 console (1929?)

Ed Charman:

Browning-Drake 5R w/tubes
Silver Marshall (?) kit
RCA Radiola 100 speaker
GE K-51 table radio
McIntosh MC-30 amplifier, C-8 preamp
Zenith 7S342 Chairside

Jerry Talbott:

1924 Crosley 51
1931 Brunswick model 18
1936 Stromberg-Carlson 61-H 3 band table set
1950 Philco TV w/16" (round tube) table set

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# SWAP SHOP

## SALE/TRADE

Pre-war Hallicrafters UHF communication receiver Model 36A. - - $25.00.

Jim Mason 503-644-2343

Console and early AC table radios for sale or trade.

Sonny Clutter 503-233-5061(days)
503-254-9296(eves)

Have many tubes to trade. From pre-octal vintage to most recent. Most are new in orig. boxes. Will trade as you need. Let me know if you have a similar supply and are willling to trade.

Bill DeVey 503-635-6746

## WANTED

Chassis for AK84

Bob Hay 503-659-8566

Philco model 90 cabinet.

Bill DeVey 503-635-6746

## TRADIO

Unclasified ads from

Puget Sound Antique Radio Association

WANTED: Sky Chief Radios (leatherette portables circa 1940), Ken Korhonen, 4022 41ST AVE SW ,Seattle , Wa 98116 206-932-9363

CASH for spherical audion, Weagant Tube, Tigerman tube (all must have good filiments), commercially- built rotary spark gap. Max Kaplan, 8412 150th ST. NW Gig Harbor ,Wa 98335 206-851-4187

Need a cabinet for Philco 90. Art Corbus 5704 11th Ave NW, Seattle ,Wa 98107 206-783-6151

WANTED: ANY H.H. Scott audio equipment "as-is", Grunow Model 801A radio. Darrell Forsberg, 12209 1st Ave. NW Seattle ,Wa 98177 206-363-0754

WANTED: Gerrard record Changers up to model RC-60. Norm Braithewaite, PO Box 2443, Redding, California 96099

FOR SALE: Majestic Model 70 console $25. 20,000 used TV and Radio tubes $100.00. Harold Hagen, 4334 Evanston N. Seattle, WA 98103 - 206-633-3990 or 206-634-1155

TRADE: Sargent Model 11 (AC) excellent shape. trade for early National reciever Max Kaplan, 8412 150th ST. NW, Gig Harbor ,Wa 98335 -206-851-4187

May 1925 Over 100,000 Copies Thirty-Five Cents
RADIO REVIEW
Reg U S Pat Off
A Digest of the latest Radio-Hookups
Edited by S Gernsback
35¢
Published by the
CONSRAD CO Inc
NEW YORK CITY
VOL 1-No1
RADIO REVIEW
MAY 1925